HOUSE RESOLUTION No. ____

Introduced by:	Duncan

A HOUSE RESOLUTION to urge the Legislature of the State of Indiana and the Indiana Republican and Democratic parties to pursue the goal of having a national primary to elect the President of the United States.

Whereas, The current structure for Presidential primaries/caucuses allows for only a small sample of the U.S. population to have a voice in who will be selected as the next President of the United States;

Whereas, Iowa and New Hampshire, who host the first two Presidential primaries/caucuses, represent less than 2% of the nation's population but receive a grossly disproportionate amount of the candidates' time and campaign dollars in the early stages of the race when a variety of candidates are pursuing the Presidency;

Whereas, Many candidates can not afford to remain in the Presidential race if they do not win or place high in the Iowa and New Hampshire contests; therefore, those candidates are

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not even able to be considered for the office by the vast majority of the nation's voters;

Whereas, The recent trend of "front-loading" in which states are violating the terms of their party rules in order to host primaries/caucuses at earlier dates, may be beneficial to the specific states involved, but is further hurting the nomination process and is creating a cause and effect problem where the campaign season is getting extended to historic lengths;

Whereas, Our country is comprised of states who are all proudly unique and diverse; therefore, the desires and opinions of one state or of a small collection of states will never represent the desires and opinions of all states;

Whereas, If each state were to have an equal opportunity to consider the full field of men and women who pursue the office of the Presidency, the candidates chosen during the primary process would truly represent the desires and opinions of the nation's citizens: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly urges the political parties of the State of Indiana to take the steps necessary to pursue the goal of a national Presidential primary so that Indiana can have more of a voice in future Presidential elections.

SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the Indiana Republican and Democratic parties.

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